

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 104-112, 114, 115, 118-123, and 127-143 are pending in the present application.
Claim 104 is amended.

Claims 113, 116, 117, and 124-126 are canceled. Claims 1-103 were previously cancelled. Applicants reserve their right to file a divisional application based on the non-elected/canceled subject matter.

Claims 127-143 are added.

Support for the amendment to Claim 104 can be found in Claim 124 and throughout the specification, as previously presented and originally filed.

Support for new Claims 127-143 can be found in Claims 105-112, 114, 115, 118-123, and 125, as previously presented and originally filed.

No new matter has been added by the amendments. An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is requested. It is noted that Claims 105-108, 112-114, and 118-123 have been withdrawn by the Examiner. However, in view of the above-amendment, Applicants request rejoinder and allowance of these claims.

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Moore for indicating that Claims 124 and 125 are allowable over the cited reference of record, U.S. Patent No. 4,806,412 ("U.S. '412") to Chandra et al. Applicants agree that the process steps of these claims are novel and unobvious over U.S. '412. Therefore, Applicants have amended Claim 104 with the allowable process of Claim 124, and added independent claim 127 with the allowable process of Claim 125.

Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections over U.S. '412 have been obviated by the amendments. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Applicants note, as indicated above, that Claims 105-108, 112-114, and 118-123 were withdrawn by the Examiner. However, in view of the above-amendments, which include the allowable processes, Applicants submit that these dependent claims are also allowable. Therefore, withdrawal of the election of species regarding these claims is requested.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims are in condition for allowance. A timely Notice of Allowability is solicited. To the extent it would be helpful to placing this application in condition for allowance, the Applicant encourages the Examiner to contact the undersigned counsel and conduct a telephonic interview.

A Petition for Extension of Time (one month), with authorization to charge fees to the deposit account indicated below, is submitted herewith. While no fees are believed due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with this filing, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-3683.

Respectfully submitted,

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